

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0476

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, GR, UN
SUBJECT: CONDUCT OF GREEK DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
IN UN FORA

1. MISSION WISHES TO CALL TO ATTENTION OF ADDRESSEES MAVERICK
AND TROUBLESOME BEHAVIOR OF GREEK DELEGATE EUTHIMIOS STOFOROPOULOS
(DEPPERMPREP AND COUNSELOR OF MISSION) IN FIFTH COMMITTEE AND
CHARTER REVIEW EXERCISE.

2. IN FIFTH COMMITTEE GREEK DEL ATTENDED MEETINGS OF WEO
GROUP BUT NOT ONLY USUALLY PARTED COMPANY WITH WEO MEMBERS BUT
ACTIVELY WORKED WITH AND ON BEHALF OF INTEREST OF LDC'S. HE
FREQUENTLY JOINED MORE RADICAL DELS WITHIN THE GROUP AND ON
OCCASION EVEN COMPETED WITH THEM TO OFFER PROPOSALS OFFENSIVE
TO THE GENERAL WESTERN VIEWS. HE SEEMED TO ENJOY THIS ROLE IN
GENERAL, BUT PARTICULARLY WHEN HE COULD OPERATE AGAINST US
INTERESTS.

3. EXAMPLES OF THIS BEHAVIOR IN FIFTH COMMITTEE ARE TOO
NUMEROUS TO CATALOG BUT INCLUDE:

(A) ON ITEM DEALING WITH UN SECRETARIAT PERSONNEL MATTERS,
STOFOROPOULOS STATED IN COMMITTEE HIS INTENTION TO INTRODUCE
AN AMENDMENT TO DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD HAVE REQUIRED
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ROTATION OF ALL SENIOR LEVEL POSTS -- I.E., AFTER A FIXED
PERIOD OF TIME THE NATIONALITY OF THE INCUMBENT OF A PARTICULAR
POST WOULD HAVE TO CHANGE. PURPOSE OF AMENDMENT WAS TO LOOSEN
STRANGLEHOLD LDC'S BELIEVE MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS HAVE ON CERTAIN
POSTS. (IN FACT, LDC'S HAVE THEIR FULL QUOTA AND THEN SOME
AT SENIOR LEVEL.) IN EFFORT TURN OFF STOFOROPOULOS MOVE,
MATTER WAS RAISED INFORMALLY BY USUN IN NEW YORK WITH GREEK

DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS STAVROPOULOS WHO NOT ONLY APPRECIATED OUR CALLING MATTER TO HIS ATTENTION, BUT APPEARED INCENSED THAT STOFOROPOULOS WOULD ENTERTAIN SUCH AN IDEA. HE SAID HE WOULD TAKE CARE OF THE MATTER. SINCE PROPOSAL IN THE END WAS NOT FORMALLY INTRODUCED BY GREEK DEL, WE CAN ONLY ASSUME OUR INTERVENTION WITH STAVROPOULOS HAD DESIRED IMPACT.

(B) ANOTHER EXAMPLE CONCERNED HIGHLY POLITICIZED CONSIDERATION OF UN SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS FOR 1977-79 DURING WHICH OPEC COUNTRIES ATTEMPTED TO BLOCK RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXPERT COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS AND TO PREJUDICE METHOD OF DETERMINING FUTURE SCALE IN THEIR FAVOR. GREEK DEL OPENLY SIDED WITH OPEC CAMP ON VARIETY OF SUBSTANTIVE AND PROCEDURAL VOTES. AS QTE REWARD UNQTE STOFOROPOULOS WAS ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP ON COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS WITH THE HELP OF OPEC AND OTHER LDC VOTES, WHEN THE MEMBERSHIP WAS EXPANDED FROM 13 TO 18. HIS POINT OF VIEW ON THAT BODY SEEMS CERTAIN TO BE TILTED TOWARD OIL PRODUCERS, AND AGAINST WEO MEMBERS.

(C) STOFOROPOULOS ALSO HAS BEEN DISTINCTLY UNHELPFUL IN BOTH 30TH AND 31ST GA'S AND IN BETWEEN ON ISSUE OF UN FINANCIAL DEFICIT. WHILE MOST WEO'S HAVE UNDERSTOOD THAT SOVIET WITHHOLDING IS THE FUNDAMENTAL CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM AND HAVE BEEN WILLING TO SPEAK UP, STOFOROPOULOS PERSISTED IN PUSHING FOR REPLENISHMENT OF THE WORKING CAPITAL FUND THROUGH A REGULAR APPROPRIATION AS A REMEDY, THUS HELPING THE SOVIETS TO FUZZ THE ISSUE AND IN EFFECT ASKING US TO PAY 25 PERCENT OF SOVIET DEBTS.
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4. CHARTER REVIEW EXERCISE IS ONLY THREE DAYS OLD, SO STOFOROPOULOS' OPPORTUNITY FOR TROUBLEMAKING HAS BEEN LIMITED.

5. HE HAS, HOWEVER, SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED TO HIM WITH VIGOR AND ENTHUSIASM. ALGERIA PROPOSED SECRETARIAT BE ASKED TO DRAW UP LIST OF PROPOSALS TO AMEND THE CHARTER. IN WEO GROUP MEETING HE ALONE SUPPORTED ALGERIAN PROPOSAL AND SOUGHT TO BLOCK ANY NEGATIVE WEO RESPONSE. ONLY ENERGETIC PRESSURE FROM ITALIAN DEPPERMREP CAVAGLIERI AND POINTED LACK OF SUPPORT EVEN FROM PRO-CHARTER REVIEW MEMBERS OF GROUP LED HIM TO SOFTEN HIS STAND SOMEWHAT.

6. IN COMMITTEE WHEN COMPOSITION AND POWERS OF SC BEING DISCUSSED, HE WAS SOLE WEO TO COME OUT IN FAVOR OF "DEMOCRATIZING" THE SC, SO POWER NOT HELD BY FEW TO EXCLUSION OF THE MANY. HIS BEHAVIOR CONTRASTS CHARPLY WITH PREVIOUS GREEK CONDUCT IN THIS EXERCISE.

7. THIS EXTENSIVE BEHAVIOR PATTERN OVER A PERIOD OF TIME AND VARIOUS DISPARATE ISSUES WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE THAT STOFOROPOULOS WILL CONTINUE TO BE A THORN IN OUR SIDE AND PERHAPS INCREASINGLY SO NOW THAT HE FEATURES HIMSELF AS HAVING GAINED POPULARITY WITH LDC'S.

8. GENERAL CONSENSUS AMONG WEO'S IS THAT STOFOROPOULOS' ANTI-WESTERN BIAS LARGELY FUNCTION HIS OWN PERSONAL VIEWS AND AMBITION. NEVERTHELESS EFFORTS BY SOME OF OUR WEO COLLEAGUES TO BRING SITUATION TO ATTENTION OF GREEK PERMREP PAPOULIAS WERE NOT RECEIVED SYMPATHETICALLY.

9. WE ARE AWARE THAT STOFOROPOULOS' CONDUCT ON AT LEAST SOME OF THESE ISSUES IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH GREEK DESIRES TO MAINTAIN TOLERABLE RELATIONS WITH ARABS AND NOT BE SEEN AS MILITANTLY ANTI-SOVIET. NEVERTHELESS IT SEEMS TO US HIS ACTIONS CONFIDENTIAL

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ARE PERSONALLY MOTIVATED AND ABOVE AND BEYOND ANY CALL OF DUTY HE IS LIKELY RECEIVING FROM ATHENS. WE WOULD WELCOME DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY ATHENS ASSESSMENT AS TO WHETHER WE ARE WITNESSING FORERUNNERS OF DEVELOPING GREEK POLICY OR A TROUBLESOME INDIVIDUAL WHOSE WINGS IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO CLIP.
YOUNG

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